

HONORING DEVIN AND SHELBY  
ANDERSON

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Devin and Shelby Anderson for their contribution to our state.

Devin serves as the President and CEO of E&A Industries and has helped the business grow from a regional company to an international conglomerate. He also has served in a number of political and governmental leadership positions in the Republican Party, including as Chief of Staff to Indiana Congressman David McIntosh and U.S. Senator Dan Coats. There is no doubt that our state is better off today due to his extraordinary leadership and service.

I've had the pleasure of knowing Devin and Shelby for more than two decades. I first met Devin when we were both working for Congressman David McIntosh in Washington. Devin and Shelby are a couple of my favorite people who I have met along this journey. They are serious people who don't take themselves too seriously. Despite their many successes, they both understand the importance of putting faith and family first.

I want to thank Devin and Shelby for their friendship and loyalty to me over all these years. I wish them continued success in all that God has planned for their family.

HONORING COUNCILWOMAN  
MAUREEN TOMS

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Councilwoman Maureen Toms for her three years of service on the Pinole City Council.

A Pinole native, Ms. Toms was exposed to public service at a young age. Her father served on the Pinole City Council and was the Mayor from 1964 to 1965. Prior to her appointment to the City Council, Ms. Toms was a Planning Commissioner for the City of Pinole and the Land Use Planner for Contra Costa County. She also served on the Amber Swartz Park Development Committee from 1994 to 2006. Throughout her tenure, Ms. Toms was instrumental in securing grants for the park.

Upon her appointment to the Pinole City Council in 2015, Ms. Toms became involved with numerous different development projects for the city. She was active in the Gateway Shopping Center project, the Sprouts project, and the Landscape Improvement Project. She has also worked on the Pinole Wastewater Pollution Control Plant Upgrade project. Additionally, Ms. Toms was heavily involved with the Planning Commission on Pinole's 2010 General Plan Update.

Among her colleagues, Ms. Toms is known for being hard-working and for her commitment to community service. In addition to her work on the City Council, Ms. Toms has served on the Down Syndrome League Board

of Directors and has volunteered as a Special Olympics Coach. She has received numerous awards for her service to Contra County and the City of Pinole, including the Contra Costa Woman of the Year award.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Toms is an admirable leader who is dedicated to serving our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Councilwoman Maureen Toms here today.

CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF  
THE NEW LANIER TECHNICAL  
COLLEGE CAMPUS

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the opening of the new Lanier Technical College campus.

In the words of Dr. Ray Perren, "This campus was built not only for the students of 2018 but for those who choose technical education in 2078." The new campus includes six buildings for technical education instruction, an economic development and campus support building, instructional building, and an administrative building and student center.

Lanier Tech's new campus was specifically designed to serve students by offering flexible training requirements, workforce training, and appropriate skills for an evolving job market. The \$150-million campus will be open for classes in January 2019 and will accommodate more than 5,000 students, nearly doubling Lanier Tech's current capacity. This will, undoubtedly, improve upon their stellar job placement rate.

Throughout the nation, communities have grown tired of paying astronomical prices for degrees that quickly become outdated. A technical education provides stability in an ever-changing economy, in industries that regularly create meaningful career opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate this investment in technical education for our local community, and I look forward to the positive impact this will have throughout Northeast Georgia.

HONORING EARL GOODE

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Earl Goode for his contribution to our state.

Earl is an institution in Indiana and has devoted his career to helping improve the lives of our fellow Hoosiers. We worked together with Governor Daniels to enact school choice legislation that has given low-income families across the state better educational opportunities. After working for Governor Daniels, Earl served as the President of Indianapolis Capital Improvement Board of Managers and now serves as the Chief of Staff for Governor Holcomb. It has been an honor to work with Earl, and I know our state is better off today because of his extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, I have had the pleasure of knowing Earl for nearly two decades. Simply put: Earl Goode is my friend and mentor. I want to thank him for his friendship, wise counsel and loyalty to me over all these years. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for his family.

PROTECTING THE CRIME VICTIMS'  
FUND: A RARE GEM

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when most Americans think about the federal government, they tend to think about the political gridlock and bureaucratic red tape that has increasingly made good governance difficult. But once in a blue moon, a unique and effective idea can emerge out of the Washington swamp, and the creation of the Crime Victims' Fund is a perfect example of one of those rare occurrences. Prior to being elected to Congress, I served as a prosecutor and Judge in Houston, Texas for 30 years. During that time, I learned firsthand how important it is to protect and help restore the most vulnerable in our society. Upon arriving in Washington after my election and learning about the Crime Victims' Fund, I knew how special the idea was, and I was determined to protect and expand it.

In 1984, President Reagan signed the Victims of Crime Act or VOCA into law, thus creating the Crime Victims' Fund. Back then, this Fund was a novel idea. Convicted federal felons pay fees and fines into the Fund, which then helps pay for services to restore victims of crime. The Fund helps pay restitution to victims; it allows domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and other organizations to keep their doors open; and it pays for a wide array of services that crime victims need, from rape kits to beds in a shelter. I want to be clear: this is not taxpayer money. This Fund allows criminals to pay for the harm that they've caused. In other words, it's like criminals paying rent on the courthouse.

At the end of FY2016, the Crime Victims Fund had a balance of more than \$12 billion. Unfortunately, this money—billions of dollars—has been used as an offset for other unrelated programs. I understand the attraction of using a program of this size to help offset other items under the budget, but it is still completely inappropriate. These are non-tax dollars. To ensure that the Fund is protected and used correctly, every year Rep. JIM COSTA (D-CA) and I have introduced the Crime Victims' Fund Preservation Act. This bill creates a "lockbox" to ensure that money in the Fund cannot be used for any purpose other than crime victims' programs authorized under the VOCA statute.

Since its creation, the Fund has been a lifeline for victims, offering them the resources and assistance they need to recover and rebuild their lives. This money should never be subject to the politics or gridlock that often derails or hampers other federal programs. The Fund is a rare Washington D.C. gem, a program that serves victims of crime while not being a burden on the American tax-payer. We must work to preserve this Fund and ensure it is protected for the future.